

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An isolated human anti-CD40 antibody or fragment thereof that specifically binds CD40 and modulates an activity of CD40.
 2. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody is monoclonal.
 3. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 2, wherein the antibody is produced by a hybridoma cell line or subclones thereof, and wherein the antibody is denoted as no. 11 or 72, or the hybridoma is denoted as F1-102, F5-152, F2-103, F5-77, F5-157 or F4-465.
 4. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody has the CD40 binding specificity of the antibody denoted as no. 11 or 72, or the antibody produced by the hybridoma denoted as F1-102, F5-152, F2-103, F5-77, F5-157 or F4-465.
 5. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody has a CD40 modulating activity of the antibody denoted as no. 11 or 72, or the antibody produced by the hybridoma denoted as F1-102, F5-152, F2-103, F5-77, F5-157 or F4-465.
 6. The human anti-CD40 antibody fragment of claim 1, wherein the fragment comprises an scFv, Fab, Fab', or F(ab')₂ fragment.
 7. The human anti-CD40 antibody fragment of claim 6, wherein the fragment comprises a fragment of the antibody denoted as no. 11 or 72, or the antibody produced by the hybridoma denoted as F1-102, F5-152, F2-103, F5-77, F5-157 or F4-465.
 8. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody is detectably labeled.
 9. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the CD40 is human.
 10. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody decreases binding of a CD40 ligand to CD40.
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11. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody increases binding of a CD40 ligand to CD40.
12. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody decreases a CD40 activity.
- 5 13. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 12, wherein the antibody contains a lambda light chain sequence.
14. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 12, wherein the antibody decreases proliferation of a cell expressing CD40.
15. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 14, wherein the cell is a B-cell.
- 10 16. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 12, wherein the antibody decreases expression of a protein.
17. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 16, wherein the protein comprises CD95, CD80 or CD86.
- 15 18. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody increases a CD40 activity.
19. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 18, wherein the antibody increases proliferation of a cell expressing CD40.
20. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 19, wherein the cell is a B-cell.
21. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 18, wherein the antibody increases expression of a protein.
- 20 22. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 21, wherein the protein comprises CD95, CD80 or CD86.
23. The human anti-CD40 antibody of claim 1, further comprising a pharmaceutical formulation.
- 25 24. A host cell that expresses the antibody of claim 1.

25. A nucleic acid that encodes the antibody of claim 1.
26. A host cell containing the nucleic acid of claim 25.
27. A method of producing a human CD40 antibody that modulates an activity of CD40 comprising:
 - (a) administering CD40 or an immunogenic fragment thereof to a mouse capable of expressing human immunoglobulin;
 - (b) screening the administered mouse for expression of a human CD40 antibody;
 - (c) selecting a mouse that produces a human CD40 antibody;
 - (d) isolating an antibody from the mouse that produces a human CD40 antibody; and
 - (e) determining whether the human CD40 antibody modulates an activity of CD40 thereby producing a human CD40 antibody that modulates an activity of CD40.
28. A method of producing a human CD40 monoclonal antibody that modulates an activity of CD40; comprising:
 - (a) administering human CD40 or an immunogenic fragment thereof to a mouse capable of expressing human immunoglobulin;
 - (b) isolating spleen cells from the mouse that produces a human CD40 antibody;
 - (c) fusing the spleen cells with a myeloma cell to produce a hybridoma; and
 - (d) screening the hybridoma for expression of a human CD40 antibody that modulates an activity of CD40 thereby producing a human monoclonal CD40 antibody that modulates an activity of CD40.

29. A monoclonal antibody isolated from a hybridoma produced by the method of claim 28.
30. A method for modulating a CD40 activity comprising contacting a cell that expresses CD40 with a modulating amount of the antibody of claim 1.
- 5 31. The method of claim 30, wherein the CD40 is human.
32. The method of claim 30, wherein the CD40 activity is increased.
33. The method of claim 32, wherein the increased CD40 activity comprises increased CD95, CD80 or CD86 expression.
34. The method of claim 32, wherein the increased CD40 activity comprises increased cell proliferation.
- 10 35. The method of claim 30, wherein the CD40 activity is decreased.
36. The method of claim 35, wherein the decreased CD40 activity comprises decreased CD95, CD80 or CD86 expression.
37. The method of claim 36, wherein the decreased CD40 activity comprises decreased cell proliferation.
- 15 38. The method of claim 37, wherein the decreased CD40 activity inhibits CD40L stimulated cell proliferation.
39. The method of claim 30, further comprising contacting the cell with a CD40 ligand.
- 20 40. The method of claim 30, wherein the antibody has the binding specificity of the antibody denoted as no. 11 or 72, or the antibody produced by the hybridoma denoted as F1-102, F5-152, F2-103, F5-77, F5-157 or F4-465.
41. The method of claim 30, wherein the antibody is denoted as no. 11 or 72, or the antibody produced by the hybridoma denoted as F1-102, F5-152, F2-103, F5-77, F5-157 or F4-465.
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42. The method of claim 31, wherein the antibody has a CD40 modulating activity of the antibody denoted as no. 11 or 72, or the antibody produced by the hybridoma denoted as F1-102, F5-152, F2-103, F5-77, F5-157 or F4-465.
43. A method of increasing a CD40 activity in a subject comprising administering to the subject an amount of a human anti-CD40 antibody that increases a CD40 activity.
44. A method of decreasing a CD40 activity in a subject comprising administering to the subject an amount of a human anti-CD40 antibody that decreases a CD40 activity.
45. A method of ameliorating an immune disorder or inhibiting an undesirable immune response in a subject comprising administering to the subject an amount of a human anti-CD40 antibody that decreases a CD40 activity thereby ameliorating the immune disorder or inhibiting the undesirable immune response.
46. The method of claim 45, wherein the undesirable immune response comprises host rejection of a transplanted cell, tissue or organ.
47. The method of claim 45, wherein the undesirable immune response comprises inflammation.
48. The method of claim 45, wherein the immune disorder comprises autoimmunity.
49. The method of claim 45, wherein the immune disorder comprises a lymphoma, a leukemia or a myeloma.
50. A method of ameliorating an immune disorder in a subject comprising administering to the subject an amount of a human anti-CD40 antibody that increases a CD40 activity thereby ameliorating the immune disorder.
51. The method of claim 50, wherein the immune disorder comprises an immunodeficiency.

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